

visionary leadership the Guild of Saint Agnes has enjoyed these past 14 years. Notwithstanding the Guild's proud history, the organization has prospered and thrived like no other in the region under the skilled and expert stewardship of Ed Madaus. As Executive Director of the Guild, Ed has transformed the agency into the most widely-known and highly-regarded childcare provider in greater Worcester County. In addition to growing the annual operating budget of the Guild from \$1 million to \$9 million, Ed has led the organization through the rigorous process of having all of its childcare centers fully accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. He has also built successful partnerships with the Worcester Public Schools and other area school districts to provide after-school care for countless working families. Ed has long understood the intrinsic connection between early childhood education and child development, and was the primary proponent for seeking the highly-competitive 21st Century grant to better connect parents and children to their schools. Perhaps most impressive among Ed's numerous achievements at the Guild has been his steadfast refusal to ignore the pressing needs of the most vulnerable children in our midst. He has aggressively pursued childcare placements for children who might otherwise find themselves in foster care and thereby given stability and hope to an untold number of families struggling to remain intact.

Not satisfied to do right by just the Guild's clients, Ed has also instituted a number of employee benefit programs as Executive Director. At his insistence, the Guild established a 100 percent tuition assistance program to encourage staff members to further their education and training in early childhood development and teaching. Today, one-third of the Guild's employees are enrolled in college. The success of that program reflects Ed's own lifelong commitment to learning. A graduate of Holy Cross College, Ed holds both a master's degree in Education from Worcester State College and a second master's degree in Social Work from Boston College.

Madam Speaker, in my 10 years in Congress I have seldom encountered a more consummate professional and decent human being than Ed Madaus. In the tradition of Marian Wright Edelman, the founder of the Children's Defense Fund, Ed Madaus has time and again proven himself to be a fierce, unrelenting and committed advocate for children. Whether at the state's Department of Social Services or as Executive Director for the Guild of Saint Agnes, Ed has surpassed that test made famous by Wright Edelman when she said, "If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much."

Madam Speaker, in closing, I humbly ask that today we in the U.S. House of Representatives stand up to publicly thank Edward Madaus for his lifetime of devoted service to our nation's children and, in particular, for his leadership at the Guild of Saint Agnes. He deserves our admiration, respect and gratitude for a career spent in the most noble cause of all.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 82ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE HALL MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF VALLEY, ALABAMA

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to pay recognition to The Hall Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church of Valley, Alabama, which is celebrating their 82nd Anniversary on May 27, 2007.

In 1866, the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church allowed African Americans to have their own congregations. Many years later, in 1925, Hall Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church was founded.

In 1941 Hall Memorial CME was rebuilt after a devastating fire, and in 1969, was remodeled. With dedicated pastors and a committed congregation, the church has grown and prospered over the years. The pastor there now is Rev. Pierre K. Primm.

I am pleased to recognize the members of The Hall Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church of Valley, Alabama, today for reaching this important milestone in the history of Valley, and congratulate the church family on their 82nd Anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO REV. THOMAS CHARLES

HON. BOBBY JINDAL

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2007

Mr. JINDAL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Reverend Thomas Charles French, Jr., for his 49-year service to the congregation of Jefferson Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Reverend French, who retired this May, departs from a pastorate he has held since Jefferson Baptist's founding. In the five decades since; he has overseen its growth from a mere 17 members to nearly 1,500, has played an active role in the Southern Baptist Convention, has developed a television ministry program in collaboration with his church, and has ministered to four generations of some of the families at Jefferson Baptist.

Though officially he is retired, Reverend French will continue to serve the community on various governing boards in Louisiana. He also will act as Jefferson Baptist's pastor emeritus after a new pastor is found. I know that even in retirement, Reverend French will continue the good works that have made him so beloved to his community in Baton Rouge.

Madam Speaker, I ask that all my colleagues join me today in honoring my good friend Reverend Thomas French's life and works. His exceptional energy, service to the public good, and lifelong dedication to his church and his state are an example for all of us to follow. I am honored to call him a friend, and I wish him the best in retirement.

TRIBUTE TO CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD SERGEANT RHYS W. KLASNO

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2007

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a hero from my congressional district, California National Guard Sergeant Rhys W. Klasno. Today I ask that the House of Representatives honor and remember this incredible young man who died in service to his country.

Rhys was born in Orange, California and attended Woodcrest Christian middle and high schools in Riverside, California. School officials and teachers remember Rhys fondly—he was a good student who was friendly with classmates and teachers.

Sergeant Klasno enlisted in the California National Guard in 2004 and was trained as an ammunition Sergeant before being reassigned in April 2006 as a heavy vehicle driver for the 1114th Transportation Company, according to the Riverside Press Enterprise. Members of Rhys's unit recall a young man who was ready to help others. After his enlistment in the National Guard, Rhys had planned to become a paramedic and to help save lives. Rhys deployed to Iraq in July 2006 and was killed Sunday, May 13, 2007, by a roadside bomb in Haditha, Iraq. Rhys received the National Defense Medal, the Army Service Ribbon and the Drill Attendance Ribbon. Today Sergeant Klasno was laid to rest at Riverside National Cemetery in California.

Rhys leaves behind his wife, Stephanie Ann Klasno and their soon-to-be-born daughter, London; his mother and father Michael and Lynn Klasno; and his grandparents Elisabeth Klasno of Temecula and Robert E. Jardinico of Arizona.

As we look at the incredibly rich military history of our country, we realize that this history is comprised of men, just like Rhys, who bravely fought for the ideals of freedom and democracy. Each story is unique and humbling for those of us who, far from the dangers they have faced, live our lives in relative comfort and ease. Today was probably the hardest day the Klasno family has ever faced and my thoughts, prayers and deepest gratitude for their sacrifice goes out to them. There are no words that can relieve their pain and what words I offer only begin to convey my deep respect and highest appreciation.

Sergeant Klasno's wife and family have all given a part of themselves today in the loss of their loved one and I hope they know that their husband, son and grandson, the goodness he brought to this world and the sacrifice he has made, will be remembered.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 1585) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes:

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to share my concerns with Section 703 of the FY 2008 Defense Authorization Bill, H.R. 1585. This provision would allow the Secretary to exclude prescription drugs that our soldiers and their families rely on to treat diabetes, asthma, cholesterol and hypertension from the TRICARE uniform formulary. This provision would create a fundamental change in the TRICARE pharmacy benefit program. Currently our military personnel have access to all drugs, even non-formulary drugs, but with a substantially higher co-pay. This provision could exclude altogether access to important lifesaving treatments and medicines.

This provision is indirectly a price control. It places a ceiling on prices that can be negotiated. The GAO and CBO previously have said that when price controls are expanded, it could have the effect of raising prices for other programs. The provision could have the unintended consequence of affecting the prices paid by the Veterans Administration, which could impact veterans' access to medicine. Price controls are also harmful to innovation, which could impede the discoveries of cures and treatments for the illnesses suffered by our soldiers, veterans and their families.

I urge my colleagues to strike this provision in conference to ensure that our soldiers and their families have access to the treatments that will allow them to continue to live healthy and productive lives.

TRIBUTE TO LANE BEATTIE

HON. ROB BISHOP

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to Lane Beattie, president and CEO of the Salt Lake Chamber. Lane was honored last week as the Distinguished Utahn of the Year, joining the ranks of many other Utahns who have contributed to the development of the State. Each year the Salt Lake City Chapter of the BYU Management Society recognizes individuals in the State of Utah for their exemplary leadership and service to the community, and Lane is a well-deserving recipient.

Lane was a professional real estate broker and developer. He has also given extensive service in the public sector. Lane, a friend and colleague of mine from the State legislature, was elected to the Utah State Senate in 1989. He quickly ascended the ranks of leadership, becoming Utah Senate President just 5 years later. He served as president of the Senate for 6 years and established a reputation as one who had the best interests of Utahns at heart.

While in the Senate, Lane proposed and implemented some of the most sweeping changes in the legislative process in several decades, including total internet access for legislators as well as the public. This made the legislative process significantly more efficient and allowed more legislator and citizen involvement. This is just one example of his commitment to truly serving the citizens of Utah by making the process and product of the legislature better.

This award is evidence of the high esteem in which Lane is held by all those who know him. His colleagues in the Senate have commented that, under his leadership, the Senate became "more efficient, productive, professional, and more open to the public." For those of us who know something about the Senate, that's saying a lot! One quality that I admired about Lane when we served together in the Utah State Legislature was his ability to build consensus. Having a good leader in the Senate certainly made my life easier on the House side.

I always appreciated Lane's commitment to lowering taxes. As leader of the Senate, he made sure the Senate passed major tax reforms and reductions across the State that have saved taxpayers millions of dollars. The Taxpayers Association, in presenting Lane the Taxpayers Advocate Award in 1999, estimated that, during his leadership in the Senate, permanent tax cuts amounting to \$1 billion were enacted.

Lane has represented our State well, being asked to speak locally, nationally, and internationally. In 1996 he was invited to address the European Union in Italy on Federalism and State's rights. He also served as a representative for all United States Senate Presidents when he was elected as Chairman of the National Senate Presidents Forum in 1998. The following year he headed a delegation from the United States on an official visit to China as a guest of the Vice President of China.

In June 2000, Governor Leavitt asked Lane to accept the post as Chief State Olympic Officer for the State of Utah to oversee and manage the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. As State Olympic Officer, Lane was in charge of coordinating the legal, financial and inter-government arrangements for Utah's hosting of the 2002 Winter Olympics. Other members of the Salt Lake Organizing Committee for the Olympics commended Lane for his unwavering commitment and tireless efforts at the Olympics. He was particularly effective at bringing together different groups and uniting everyone toward accomplishing a common goal. Lane's effectiveness at finding solutions to problems greatly contributed to the success of the 2002 Winter Olympics. His reputation as a leader extends beyond just the State of Utah.

Following the Olympics, Lane was chosen as president and CEO of the Salt Lake Chamber. His experience in both the public and private sector has been a tremendous asset to the business community in the Salt Lake area and his vision for Utah has improved the state as a whole. Lane is truly a voice for the business community in Utah.

Working with and supporting Lane in his various civic pursuits is Lane's wife Joy and their three children. His contributions as a legislator, businessman, and Olympic Officer have truly made Utah a better place to live. Lane Beattie is one of Utah's most accomplished leaders and I am pleased to honor him today for his outstanding contributions and achievements.

PRIVILEGED MOTION REGARDING ALLEGATIONS AGAINST REPRESENTATIVE MURTHA

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I cannot support this motion.

If the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct (the so-called Ethics Committee) were to report such a resolution, it would be a matter demanding careful consideration by the House.

But that is not the case with this resolution. It has not been considered by the Ethics Committee or by any other Committee and its author seeks to have the full House of Representatives act on it without having the benefit of any hearings before it is debated here on the floor.

To me, Madam Speaker, that is not the appropriate way to proceed.

The resolution combines elements of an indictment—in the form of allegations stated as facts—with those of a verdict in the form of a conclusion that there has been a violation of the Rules of the House.

I do not know whether any or all of the allegations are true, and so I cannot say whether or not the proposed verdict would be just.

Rather than ask the House to vote today on those allegations and the proposed verdict, I think the resolution's author should bring the matters dealt with in this resolution to the attention of the Ethics Committee so they can be considered in a way that allows for a fair process aimed at determining the facts and making such recommendations as the facts will support.

Because that has not been done, I think the resolution is premature at best and so I cannot support it.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RURAL AMERICA JOB ASSISTANCE AND CREATION ACT

HON. JOHN M. MCHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2007

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Rural America Job Assistance and Creation Act, which is a comprehensive measure designed to address a host of issues identified as problematic for residents and businesses in my central and northern New York district and the rest of rural America.

The need for this legislation, which I have introduced in each of the past three Congresses, has been reillustrated by a recent development in my district. Specifically, on May 14, 2007, the General Motors, GM, Corporation announced that it would phase out some 500 jobs at its Powertrain plant in Massena, NY. While such an unfortunate event would have a negative impact on any community, it is especially devastating for my constituents in St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties, as GM's \$31 million annual payroll served as a cornerstone to the local economy and will be difficult to replace.

The GM situation in Massena particularly illustrates the need for two provisions of this